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8 August 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, SIGINT Committee
Chairman, COMIREX
Chairman, HUMINT Committee
Chairman, Information Handling Committee

FROM: Director, Planning and Policy Staff

SUBJECT: DCI Response to Nuclear Weapons Master Plan, Phase II
Intelligence Study

1. As you are aware, PPS has served as the focal point for the ICS for activities associated with DoD's Nuclear Weapons Master Plan (NWMP) since the inception of that project. Our principal role has been to ensure, to the extent possible, that the program presents a balanced view of Soviet warfighting capabilities and philosophy; that the resulting recommendations enhance rather than impact negatively on peacetime intelligence collection, processing and dissemination activities; that the appropriate and responsible Intelligence Community Program Managers have the opportunity to assess and input to the study effort; and, that the DCI's responsibilities and authority in both peacetime and wartime be adequately represented.

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2. We now must prepare the DDCI's response to DoD on the attached NWMP Phase II study. The size and content of the study dictate that these comments be provided in two phases. Accordingly, we believe we should provide an interim reply by 1 September and a detailed response by mid-January. We need your help in each instance and have outlined below our perception of what is required to provide a credible response.

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3. Interim Response. This should have a positive tone while at the same time detailing those broad aspects of the program that could prove troublesome to the overall US intelligence effort or that appear to require further study before any investment actions are initiated. It should specifically reserve any commitment to a mix option until certain basic Intelligence Community studies have been completed. We are soliciting comments from the NFIP agencies that participated in, or are affected by, the NWMP-II Intelligence Working Group (IWG) efforts for inclusion in this response. In order to present a coordinated ICS/Program Manager interim response, we will need formal DCI committee comments. These could probably be generated through a joint COMIREX/SIGINT/HUMINT Committee Chairman evaluation of the NWMP-II intelligence study (as opposed to the Forces, C³, and Logistics studies) to determine:

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- how realistic the study is
- the degree of bias it contains, if any
- the validity of the methodology used to derive the mix options
- the validity of the resultant mixes
- the value/utility of the recommended mixes
- your position regarding: Recommendation 3 (System Concepts and Technology); Recommendation 4 (Follow-on Studies/New Initiatives); and the 18 studies contained in Section 7.2.3 of the IWG report.

[redacted] has agreed to chair a meeting for this purpose on Wednesday, 10 August at 1000 hours in his office, and asks that you be prepared to discuss these issues at that time. [redacted]

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4. In addition to comments on the IWG study, the interim reply should also address the Forces, C³ and Logistics Working Groups' studies insofar as they impact on intelligence. The principal item here is the C³ Working Group, and its report on Command, Control and Communications. We would like the Information Handling Committee to provide an assessment of survivable communications in support of intelligence operations, as detailed in the C³ Working Group report. [redacted]

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5. Detailed Report. This should present the results of in-depth studies by the National Intelligence Council (NIC), the SIGINT Committee, and the COMIREX. We plan to ask the NIC to assess the operational utility of intelligence derived from the sensors specified in the recommended and alternative mixes across the spectrum of conflict (peace, crisis, theater conventional war, theater nuclear war, general nuclear war, and back to peace), using the NWMP-II scenario and requirements as a basis for evaluation. The recommended mix and alternative mixes should be assessed also from a tasking, collection, processing and dissemination perspective to evaluate the utility and feasibility of the various components in satisfying the intelligence requirements developed for NWMP-II. We would like the SIGINT Committee to assess the ability of the SIGINT components of the various mixes to satisfy the requirements, and to determine whether a different mix of assets would prove more effective under the basic assumptions established for NWMP-II. Similarly, we would like the COMIREX to evaluate the utility of the recommended mix (Recommendation 1) to satisfy the stated requirements without the benefit of imagery, assess the incremental improvements embodied in the alternative recommendations, and recommend an imagery package that would satisfy minimum intelligence requirements under wartime conditions. These studies should be completed by 30 December 1983, in order to meet the mid-January 1984 deadline noted above. [redacted]

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Intelligence Study**

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